

Remarks

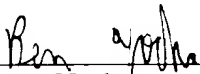
The Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 5, 8-10, 12, 15-17 and 19 under 35 U.S.C §102(e) as being anticipated by Liu. The Examiner rejected claims 4, 6, 7, 11, 13, 14, 18, 20 and 21 under 35 U.S.C §103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu. Independent claims 1, 8 and 15 each recite a substrate coating with a thickness that is substantially inversely proportional to a refractive index of the coating. Liu does not disclose such a limitation. Of the equations disclosed in Liu, equation (7) shows a proportional relationship between the index and a thickness, not an inverse relationship as recited in the claims. Additionally, Liu does not disclose a coating thickness so that a minimum intensity of a reflective light beam is at a negative flying height as recited in claim 22. For these reasons the applicant submits that Liu does not anticipate or render obvious the claims of the above-entitled application.

In view of the above it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections is requested. Allowance of claims 1-28 at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

IRELL & MANELLA LLP

Dated: May 7, 2003



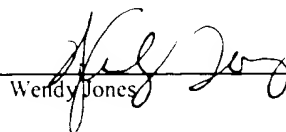
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Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on
May 7, 2003.


Wendy Jones

5/7/03
Date

Appendix

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 9 has been amended as follows:

9. (Amended) The tester as recited in Claim 8[10], wherein said thickness of said coating is further substantially proportional to a wavelength of said light.